

**What is claimed is:**

1. A method for presenting information to a user, comprising:

displaying to said user, in accordance with one or more specified criteria, one or more notifications corresponding to one or more events known by a node of said user, wherein each of said notifications describes one or more of said events, wherein displaying is performed while a user interface of said node is in an idle state;

freezing display of said notifications; and

enabling said user to said user to select one or more of said notifications for corresponding operations.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein said one or more of said events relate to software accessible by said node.

3. The method of claim 1, wherein one or more of said events relate to one or more messages received by said node.

4. The method of claim 3, wherein one or more of said messages correspond to one or more entities.

5. The method of claim 3, wherein one or more of said messages correspond to chat.

6. The method of claim 1, wherein two or more of said notifications are displayed simultaneously

to said user.

7. The method of claim 1, wherein displaying is via a screensaver.

8. The method of claim 1, wherein one or more of said notifications are textual notifications.

9. The method of claim 1, wherein one or more of said notifications are graphical notifications.

10. The method of claim 1, wherein said criteria are provided by said user.

11. The method of claim 1, wherein said criteria are provided by a system administrator.

12. The method of claim 1, wherein one or more of said criteria are metadata.

13. The method of claim 1, wherein said notifications scroll.

14. The method of claim 13, wherein scrolling is three-dimensional.

15. The method of claim 1, wherein software corresponding to a selected notification is activated.

16. The method of claim 1, further comprising providing a tactile indication to said user.

17. A method for notifying a user in a peer-to-peer environment, comprising:

maintaining a number of authenticated connections to one or more nodes in said peer-to-peer environment;

receiving from one of said nodes, via one or more of said authenticated connections, one or more messages to be bypassed; and

displaying to said user one or more notifications corresponding to one or more of said messages to be bypassed wherein content of each of the messages to be bypassed to which said notifications correspond matches one or more specified criteria, wherein each of said notifications describes one or more of said messages to which said notifications correspond,

wherein maintaining, receiving, and displaying are performed while a user interface of said node is in an idle state.

18. The method of claim 17, wherein one or more of the received messages to be bypassed correspond to one or more entities.

19. The method of claim 17, wherein one or more of the received messages to be bypassed correspond to chat.

20. The method of claim 17, wherein two or more of said notifications are displayed simultaneously to said user.

21. The method of claim 17, wherein displaying is via a screensaver.

22. The method of claim 17, wherein one or more of said notifications are textual notifications.

23. The method of claim 17, wherein one or more of said notifications are graphical notifications.

24. The method of claim 17, wherein said criteria are provided by said user.

25. The method of claim 17, wherein said criteria are provided by a system administrator.

26. The method of claim 17, wherein one or more of said criteria are metadata.

27. The method of claim 17, wherein said notifications scroll.

28. The method of claim 27, wherein scrolling is three-dimensional.

29. The method of claim 17, further comprising:

freezing display of said notifications; and

enabling said user to select one or more of said notifications for corresponding operations.

30. The method of claim 29, wherein software corresponding to a selected notification is activated.

31. The method of claim 17, further comprising providing a tactile indication to said user.

32. A system for presenting information to a user, comprising:

a memory having program code stored therein; and

a processor operatively connected to said memory for carrying out instructions in accordance with said stored program code;

wherein said program code, when executed by said processor, causes said processor to perform:

displaying to said user, in accordance with one or more specified criteria, one or more notifications corresponding to one or more events known by a node of said user, wherein each of said notifications describes one or more of said events, wherein displaying is performed while a user interface of said node is in an idle state;

freezing display of said notifications; and

enabling said user to said user to select one or more of said notifications for corresponding operations.

33. The system of claim 32, wherein said one or more of said events relate to software accessible by said node.

34. The system of claim 32, wherein one or more of said events relate to one or more messages received by said node.

35. The system of claim 34, wherein one or more of said messages correspond to one or more entities.

- 36. The system of claim 34, wherein one or more of said messages correspond to chat.
- 37. The system of claim 32, wherein two or more of said notifications are displayed simultaneously to said user.
- 38. The system of claim 32, wherein displaying is via a screensaver.
- 39. The system of claim 32, wherein one or more of said notifications are textual notifications.
- 40. The system of claim 32, wherein one or more of said notifications are graphical notifications.
- 41. The system of claim 32, wherein said criteria are provided by said user.
- 42. The system of claim 32, wherein said criteria are provided by a system administrator.
- 43. The system of claim 32, wherein one or more of said criteria are metadata.
- 44. The system of claim 32, wherein said notifications scroll.
- 45. The system of claim 44, wherein scrolling is three-dimensional.
- 46. The system of claim 32, wherein software corresponding to a selected notification is activated.

47. The system of claim 32, wherein said processor further performs providing a tactile indication to said user.

48. A system for notifying a user in a peer-to-peer environment, comprising:

a memory having program code stored therein; and

a processor operatively connected to said memory for carrying out instructions in accordance with said stored program code;

wherein said program code, when executed by said processor, causes said processor to perform:

maintaining a number of authenticated connections to one or more nodes in said peer-to-peer environment;

receiving from one of said nodes, via one or more of said authenticated connections, one or more messages to be bypassed; and

displaying to said user one or more notifications corresponding to one or more of said messages to be bypassed wherein content of each of the messages to be bypassed to which said notifications correspond matches one or more specified criteria, wherein each of said notifications describes one or more of said messages to which said notifications correspond,

wherein maintaining, receiving, and displaying are performed while a user interface of said node is in an idle state.

49. The system of claim 48, wherein one or more of the received messages to be bypassed correspond to one or more entities.

50. The system of claim 48, wherein one or more of the received messages to be bypassed correspond to chat.

51. The system of claim 48, wherein two or more of said notifications are displayed simultaneously to said user.

52. The system of claim 48, wherein displaying is via a screensaver.

53. The system of claim 48, wherein one or more of said notifications are textual notifications.

54. The system of claim 48, wherein one or more of said notifications are graphical notifications.

55. The system of claim 48, wherein said criteria are provided by said user.

56. The system of claim 48, wherein said criteria are provided by a system administrator.

57. The system of claim 48, wherein one or more of said criteria are metadata.

58. The system of claim 48, wherein said notifications scroll.

59. The system of claim 58, wherein scrolling is three-dimensional.



60. The system of claim 48, wherein said processor further performs:

freezing display of said notifications; and

enabling said user to select one or more of said notifications for corresponding operations.

61. The system of claim 60, wherein software corresponding to a selected notification is activated.

62. The system of claim 48, wherein said processor further performs providing a tactile indication to said user.